

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 780 – SB 760

February 20, 2017

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires a law enforcement officer operating a manned traffic enforcement camera to do so in a clearly marked law enforcement vehicle that is visible to approaching vehicles and to give a signal of a manned traffic enforcement camera by use of authorized flashing lights. Requires traffic citations issued based upon evidence from a manned traffic enforcement camera to be issued immediately upon determining that an offense occurred and not issued solely by mail.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Decrease Local Revenue – Exceeds \$1,000

Decrease Local Expenditures – Exceeds \$100

Assumptions:

- It is assumed all law enforcement agencies that choose to operate a manned traffic enforcement camera currently own a clearly marked law enforcement vehicle with flashing lights; therefore, no increase in expenditures as a result of required equipment or vehicles.
- Nothing in the bill requires the use manned traffic enforcement cameras to be eliminated.
- Requiring officers who use unmanned traffic enforcement cameras to be visible from the road to approaching cars and to give a signal of the operation of a manned traffic enforcement cameras by flashing lights will likely give motorists better warning that they would correct any otherwise traffic violation. As a result, the extent of traffic violations would be expected to decrease under the provisions of this bill.
- Prohibiting citations to be issued solely by mail will likely reduce the extent of violations as well.
- Any decrease in traffic offenses is dependent on several unknown factors such as the extent of traffic violations that would occur in the absence of this bill, the extent to which motorists will correct any violation prior to the action registering as an offense, the extent to which citations are issued solely by mail, and the fine or penalty that would have occurred as a result of the otherwise traffic violation. Given the extent of unknown factors, the precise decrease in traffic violations expected to occur under the provisions of this bill cannot be determined. However, the recurring decrease in local fine revenue

resulting from fewer traffic violations is reasonably estimated to exceed \$1,000 statewide.

- The bill mandates that each citation not be issued solely by mail. The extent of local governments that choose to issue citations by mail is unknown. However, the recurring decrease in local expenditures from postage savings is reasonably estimated to exceed \$100 statewide.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Krista M. Lee". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

/dwl